

**From:** Siegfried Behrens  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

While I agree that a settlement with Microsoft is in the best interest of the nation, some of the terms in the CIS are a bit too harsh for Microsoft. The government should remember that Microsoft is one of America's best business assets. We need companies like Microsoft to remain strong in our war against terrorism. Microsoft's security technology is helping American business and government in its greatest time of need.

This is the language that I thought was too harsh:

"Creating the opportunity for software developers and other computer industry participants to develop new middleware products that compete directly with Microsoft by requiring Microsoft to disclose all of the interfaces and related technical information that Microsoft's middleware uses to interoperate with the Windows operating system."

I don't believe Microsoft should have to disclose this much information about how they work with Windows. This is their competitive advantage and they should be able to keep it, not have it stripped away by the government.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

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